Water Resources Management Plans for critical and semi-critical areas of North Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kachchh region with special reference to coastal area of Saurashtra & Banni area of Kachchh and North Gujarat with emphasis on locally available Water Resources including feasibility of inter-basin transfer from surplus area to water deficit areas.

(b) Preparation of appropriate and cost effective plans for artificial recharge in critical and semi-critical areas in relation to prevailing hydrological conditions.

(c) Preparation of Water Resources Plan to each basin with economical analysis of various options/alternatives and recommend the economically and technically viable solution.

(d) Preparation of bankable plan for implementation of effective water resources management policies in the State.

(c) and (d) No, sir.

Stoppage of MPLAD schemes during election

1265. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some ongoing projects/ schemes under M.R Local Areas Development schemes were stopped due to elections held recently, as per instructions of the Election Commission;

(b) if so, whether the schemes under the M.P. Local Areas Development Scheme relating to Rajya Sabha M.Ps. were also held in abeyance; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether such projects in Punjab would be resumed to utilise the funds earmarked for the purpose and to avoid cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The Election Commission's Model Code of Conduct which came into force immediately after the declaration of General Elections did not envisage stoppage of on-going works. The Department of Programme Implementation also did not issue any such instructions. However, the Election Commission directed the Chief Electoral Officers in all the States to bring to the notice of all the Membrs of Parliament, the direction given by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh in Writ Petition No. 8200/1996 pertaining to the violation of the Model Code of Conduct by the Members of Parliament after the declaration of general elections. The Deptt. of Programme Implementation also wrote to all the District Collectors and the Members of Parliament about the Orders of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Question does not arise, since there was no ban on execution of on-going works during the election period.

रसोई गैस (एल॰पी॰जी॰) के नए वितरक नियुक्त करने संबंधी मानदण्ड

1266. श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) रसोई गैस (एल॰पी॰जी॰) के नए वितरक नियुक्त करने संबंधी मानदण्ड क्या है, और

(ख) वर्ष 1996-97 में मध्य प्रदेश में जिला-वार कितनी-कितनी गैस एजेंसियां खोले जाने का प्रस्ताव है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी॰ आर॰ बालू): (क) विद्यमान नीति के अनुसार आर्थिक दृष्टि से व्यवहार्य स्थानों को एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप स्थापित करने के लिए, एल पी जी विपणन योजना में शामिल किया जाता है। जिस जिले में डीलरशिप/ डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप अवस्थित की जानी है उस जिले (जिलों) में अधिकतम परिचालन वाले एक ''अंग्रजी दैनिक'' तथा एक ''क्षेत्रीय दैनिक'' में विज्ञापन के माध्यम से तेल उद्योग डीलरों/डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरों को नियुक्त करता है। जो अभ्यर्थी राष्ट्रीयता, उम्र, शैक्षणिक योग्यता, आय, अनेक मापकों, आवास संबंधी पात्रता शर्तों को पूरा करते हैं उनमें से साक्षात्कारों के आधार पर राज्य के तेल चयन बोर्ड द्वारा चयन किया जाता है।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश के लिए एल पी जी विपणन योजना 1994-96 में 104 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप शामिल की गई है।

VSAT-Bibliographic Data Base Project under the MPLADS

1267. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many schools and colleges have taken the VSAT-Bibliographic Data Base Project under the MPLADS:

(b) what are the difficulties faced for this project and what are the difficulties faced by MPs in giving these projects; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make the procedure easy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) As per the information received from the Department of Electronics, and the information available in the Department of Programme Implementation, four institutions viz. One University, One College and two Schools have taken up the VSAT-Bibliographic Data Base Projects under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme.

(b) No references indicating serious difficulties in implementing this project have been received so far. Certain clarification which had been sought about the guidelines and procedures have been given.

(c) In the Department of Electronics' Brochure on "Guidelines on Implementation of Electronics Projects" every effort has been made to provide as much information as possible so as to facilitate expeditious implementation of these projects. It has also been mentioned that the DoE would provide the necessary technical assistance and guidance for coordination purpose.

Request of Kashmiri Pandits to UNHRC for a safe haven

1268. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Kashmiri Pandit leaders had approached the United Nations Human Rights Commission Sub-Committee on protection of Minorities in Geneva for their recognition as a bonafide minority in Jammu and Kashmir and had called for a safe haven for them within the Kashmir Valley, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 8th May, 1996; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMANIAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A Kashmir Pandit NGO based in London took part as observer in the Working Group of Minorities of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities under the Commission for Human Rights, from April 29, 1996 to May 3, 1996. It demanded a 'safe haven' for Pandits in the Kashmir valley and criticised the National Commission for Minorities in India for not recognising the Kashmiri Pandits as a minority. No reference has, however, been received from the Working Group on the demand made by the above mentioned NGO, nor was there any discussion on the subject during the Sub-Commission Session. In fact, the Kashmir Pandit migrants, under the aegis of different groups, have also been raising the question of carving out security zones to facilitate their return to the valley. Consideration of this demand has to, inter alia, include the issue as to whether such security zone will guarantee the safety of individuals who may have to step out of the zone to other parts of the valley on normal business and economic activities. There is no proposal under consideration regarding recognition of Kashmir Pandits as minority in J&K.

World Bank-funded power projects in Orissa

1269. SHRIMATI JAYANTIPATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to implement any World Bank funded power project in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are those projects and the funds approved therefor; and

(c) by when those projects are expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE M1NISTERY OF POWER (DR. S. VENU-GOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) A loan of US $ 350 million has been negotiated with the World Bank for the Orissa Power Sector Restructuring Project. This project includes assisting the newly set-up Corporate entities viz., the Orissa